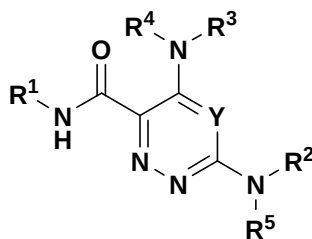


ABSTRACT

Compounds having the following formula I:



I

- 5 or a stereoisomer or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, where R¹, R², R³, R⁴, and R⁵ are as defined herein, are useful in the modulation of IL-12, IL-23 and/or IFN α , by acting on Tyk-2 to cause signal transduction inhibition.

[no suitable figure]